

BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2007

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, February 26, 2007, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street in Bristol, RI. The Chairperson, William A. Estrella, Jr, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 PM.

Present: William A. Estrella, Jr., Marjorie J. McBride, Paul Silva, William M. O'Dell, Paul E. Brule, Diana B. Campbell, David L. Dugan, Joyce M. Kinsella and John P. Saviano; Edward P. Mara, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools; Melinda L. Thies, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction; Jane F. Correia, Director of Administration and Finance; Leslie A. Neubauer, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; and Andrew D. Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor

Absent: none

OPENING BUSINESS

All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mr. Estrella asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence and reflection for Kayleigh Raposa, a Mt. Hope student who was killed in a car accident this past weekend. He said that through this awful tragedy, the Mt. Hope staff demonstrated a level of caring and service far beyond anything anyone could expect, opening the school and making themselves available to students throughout the weekend; and the outpouring from the students showed the strength of friendship and sense of community shared in this District. Dr. Mara also commended the high school staff for their enormous amount of support and caring. He said we will pull together and do what we can for the students, staff and parents.

Accolades

The Providence Performing Arts Center and Rhode Island Monthly magazine nominated one of our art teachers for the prestigious “Educator Apple Award” given by the League of American Theatres and Producers. This teacher implemented “The Lion King Tree of Life Carousel” project with the Kickemuit Middle School as part of the 2005 ArtReach initiative, whose intent is the integration of art, science, critical thinking, planning, research, execution comparison and reward. We congratulate Kathleen Dwyer.

The Bristol Warren Art Department is pleased to announce that the following students received RI Scholastic Art Awards this year. We would like to thank art teachers Ms. Sloat, Ms. Bird, Ms. Camara, Ms. Baxter and Ms. Mullen for their work with the students and guidance.

We congratulate:

Mt. Hope Silver Key winners: Nikki Metthe, ceramics

Brittany Durette, painting

Lauren Farnsworth, painting

Troy Mandeville, sculpture

Kickemuit Silver Key winners: Carissa French, mixed media

Talia King, mixed media

Trevona Perry, sculpture

Congratulations to these students and their teachers!

The annual Mt. Hope High School Science Fair was an impressive display of talent, hard work and thought. We extend a special thank you to the Mt. Hope science teachers for all the extra time put into helping students, the students for continuing to improve their projects and presenting themselves in a professional manner, family members for their support, and the incredible turnout of judges from Roger Williams University, Brown University, RI College, Naval Undersea Warfare Center, DEM, NASA RI Space Grant Consortium, Professionals in the Community, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kickemuit Middle School, Mt. Hope High School, and Bristol Warren administration.

Third Place:

Frankie DaPonte: Molly Fish: Do They Grow Better with Salt?

Barry Godwin and Elizabeth Jernigan: The Effect of UV Rays on

Brine Shrimp Embryos

Melissa Pacheco and Alexa Wallace: Damselfish Behavior with Mirrors

Gerard Absi: The Effectiveness of Teeth Whitening Products

Christina Rego: How Does Sugar Concentration vary in Different Grapes

Ben Hamel: The Effects of Kinetic Energy on Breaking Wood

Emily Beebe: The Effect of Algae Growth on Direct/Indirect Sunlight

Dominique Latessa: The Effect of Runoff Chemicals from Local Properties on the Kickemuit River

Katie Marshall: Heat Effects on Potency of Antibiotics

Second Place

Kyle MacGovern: The Effects of Temperature on Elasticity of Golf Balls

Victoria Joynes: Neuroscience Tests Girls vs Boys

Matt Dame: How Does Diet Affect Crayfish Growth?

Kathleen Coccio: Effect of Cell Phones on Reaction Times

Shealyn Davey: Burn Baby Burn, Excited Atoms (Flame Test)

Erin Oliver: The Effect of Color on Memory

Emily VanSchalkwyk: Pykrete vs Ice Strength and Melting Point

Heather Morreo: Do all Plants Transpire at the Same Rate Under Different Sources of Light?

Paula Rodriques and Melissa Wilson: Regeneration of Apistasia

Maggie Lopes: The Effect of Bone Cysts on a Bone

First Place, Top Ten, Eligible for the State Competition

Brooke Cotta: The Effects of Different Detergents on Removing Oil from Bird Feathers

Brooke also received the Principal's Award

Hillary Mulvey: The Effects of Different Algae on Metabolizing Carbon Dioxide

Nicole Andre: Herbal Remedies that Inhibit Bacterial Growth

Nicole also received the Best Biology Award

Jonathan Silva: Which Golf Ball Can Be Hit the Farthest?

Jonathan also received the Best Physics Award

Robert Cotta: The Effects of Bacteria on the Growth of Plants

Ben Mosher: The Effect of Washing on Flame Resistant Clothing

Elaina Ramos: Does the Temperature of Salt Water Effect Pollution Caused by Fertilizer Run-off?

Elaina also received the Best Chemistry Award

Brad Mello: The Reliability of R-Values to Determine the Effectiveness of Home Insulation

Amanda Peloquin: Which Sunblock Works the Best?

Mason Wetherald: How Does Honey Affect the Growth of Bacteria?

Mason also received Best of Fair

Dr. Mara introduced two young students from the Hugh Cole School, wearing shirts printed with "Mary V. Quirk Sailing to Hugh Cole" commemorating the move of Mary V. Quirk students to the new Hugh Cole complex.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. McBride motioned to approve the consent agenda; Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0.

Mr. Silva motioned to seal the minutes to the January 18, 2007 Executive Session. Mr. Brule seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Recommendation #BF2007-02: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, accept the proposed 2007-2008 budget package as presented by Administration and the Subcommittee.

Mrs. McBride motioned to approve; Mr. Silva seconded. Mr. O'Dell stated that this is going to be the year of the streamlined budget request thanks to Senate Bill 30-50. Our bottom line request is

\$52,754,307, but we must reduce this request by \$964,939 to get down to a legal request within the 5.25% cap. March 8 has been tentatively set for the first Joint Finance meeting; it is hoped to complete the process in two meetings this year instead of the usual three. Mr. Estrella added that the budget process has been developing since December and it is important for people of Bristol and Warren to be supportive of the District's efforts. Seventy-three layoffs letters to teachers were sent; this was a difficult task. The motion to accept passed by a vote of 9 to 0.

Mr. Estrella scheduled an emergency meeting for February 28th at 6:00 PM to discuss administrative notice. He asked the Policy Subcommittee to revisit the policy to make the dates realistic. Attorney Henneous advised the meeting must be posted as emergency because the 48 hour deadline cannot be met. Dr. Mara clarified that this action is in response to a request from some members of the School Committee.

POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Recommendation #PCA 2007-01: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy Exhibit AFB-E (CBG-E) Superintendent's Evaluation Plan, Evaluation Calendar (amended at last meeting)

Mrs. McBride motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion

passed unanimously.

Recommendation #PCA 2007-03: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy KD (also BDDH) Public Participation at School Committee Meetings (Second Reading-amended and tabled at last meeting)

Mr. O'Dell motioned to approve; Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #PCA 2007-05: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy AC Nondiscrimination (First Reading)

Mrs. McBride motioned to approve; Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL / CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Silva reported the final Council 94 document has been signed.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Naming of Mt. Hope Athletic Complex

Mrs. McBride moved to establish a subcommittee consisting of Dr. Mara, Mr. Estrella, the Chair of the Booster Club and herself, to plan

the project and present to the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee for implementation in the spring. Mr. O'Dell seconded. Mr. Estrella commented that it has always been the feeling of the District and community to name the complex in honor of Mr. Thomas Vendituoli. The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0.

School Committee Issues List

Mrs. Kinsella asked the Committee's feelings on maintaining hard copies of the policy book now that the policies are on the District website. Mrs. McBride would like a hard copy and she said one will be made available to anyone who wishes. The Policy Subcommittee will discuss the issue at their March 5th meeting.

Future Workshop Agenda Items

Mrs. McBride reminded the Committee there are still two more School Committee goals to discuss.

Mr. O'Dell's request for dialogue about school days in which little educating takes place will be placed on the April Workshop agenda.

Mr. Silva asked about the Committee's prior discussion about presenting possible program/staff cuts to the public before Joint Finance meetings take place in order to bolster support for the District at those meetings. The Committee discussed pros and cons. All agreed that a major cut will damage the excellent progress the District has made, and that it is critical for all concerned tax payers to attend the Joint Finance meetings.

Attorney Henneous left the meeting.

COLT ANDREWS CONSTRUCTION SUBCOMMITTEE

Recommendation #CA2007-01: That the project proceed to permitting and bid documents.

Mr. Estrella explained that letters were sent to the abutters of Colt Andrews and he appreciated those who have come. Mrs. McBride stated this is in preparation for presentation to the Bristol Boards and she recognized Christopher Daly, Project Manager, and Luis Torrado, Architect.

Mr. Torrado showed a video of the plans for the exterior of Colt, Andrews and the addition, and the top floor of Colt with the media center, art room and small classroom. He pointed out that the dumpster and air conditioning unit is placed away and behind landscaping; the parking area is expanded and leaves room for a play area; handicapped access is provided at Andrews; the Pastime emblem will be placed inside the building; the new addition takes up less space than the Pastime structure leaving more space to the property line. An inside elevator at Colt provides access to all floors and a drop ceiling will be removed to expose the timber trusses; many of the existing cabinets and bookcases will be restored. Mrs. Kinsella raised objection to classrooms on the lower level of Colt even though they are not completely below grade level. A multi-purpose room is proposed for the first floor of the addition so

that Kindergarten and first grade students will not have to leave the building. Fourth and fifth graders will have to cross the street for lunch.

Bennett Burnham, who lives behind the Andrews Building on Central Street, said he has a six-foot hurricane fence between the properties and that the area behind the school has always been a place for children to hide because it is difficult for police to observe. He is willing to be involved in plans to assure that the security of the neighborhood is not compromised. Mrs. McBride responded that his and the neighbors' security and consideration of lighting will absolutely be taken into consideration.

Mr. Brule motioned to approve the recommendation; Mr. Saviano seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 1 with Mrs. Kinsella voting no because of classrooms in the basement of Colt.

The Subcommittee will inform the Committee when meetings with the Bristol Boards are scheduled.

Mrs. Correia and Mrs. Neubauer left the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Recommendation #S 2007-04: PERSONNEL

A. BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the School of the 21st Century, Before and After School Program, as listed below (pending sufficient enrollment to warrant running this program and DCYF CANTS clearance):

1. Tina Gallinelli Child Care Provider (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

2. Bethanie Goncalves Child Care Intern (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

B. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2006-07 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):

COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH

Sport Position Coach

- 1. Softball (Girls) Asst. Coach Jennifer Puniello**

HEALTHY HUSKIES WELLNESS CENTER/GYM AREA SUPERVISOR

- 2. Supervisor (Spring) Greg Arruda**
- 3. Supervisor (Spring) Robert Arsenault**
- 4. Supervisor (Spring) Thomas DelSanto**
- 5. Supervisor (Spring) Gerard Spence**
- 6. After School Gym Area Supervisor (3rd Quarter) ** Steven Bernard**
- 7. After School Gym Area Supervisor (4th Quarter) ** Steven Bernard**

INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE

- 8. Track (Outdoor) Coach Brian Beausoliel ***

INTRAMURAL COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE

- 9. Track (Outdoor) Coach James Barnaby**

*** Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**** Funded by Warren Substance Abuse Task Force**

C. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for certified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

CERTIFIED

Name Area/Level

- 1. Lieschen Dolan General Subject Matter**
- 2. Georgette A. Dudley General Subject Matter**
- 3. Amy Gaidmore General Subject Matter**
- 4. Heather McElroy General Subject Matter**
- 5. Candise Prewitt Elementary**
- 6. Jane L. Want Elementary**

D. CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for classified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

SECRETARIAL

- 1. Tina Gallinelli**

TEACHER ASSISTANTS

- 2. Holly Cabral**

CUSTODIANS/MAINTENANCE

- 3. Steven G. Soares**

E. LEAVES OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant leaves of absence for a Secondary English Teacher, an Elementary Special Educator and a Secretary as follows:

- 1. Lisa C.K. Melmed English Teacher – Mt. Hope High**

Effective: April 20, 2007, for 6-8 weeks

**Reason: Maternity leave in accordance with
Article 21, Section L1 of the Master
Agreement**

2. Nancy Patalano Special Educator - Guiteras

**Effective: Upon completion of Maternity Leave
through May 25, 2007**

**Reason: Parental leave in accordance with
Article 21, Section L2 of the Master
Agreement**

3. Stephanie J. Gates Secretary – Pupil Personnel Services

**Effective: January 5, 2007, up to one year
pending release from physician**

**Reason: Leave in accordance with Article 20
of the Master Agreement**

**F. LEAVE OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the
recommendation of the Superintendent to grant an extension of a
leave of absence for an Elementary Teacher as follows:**

1. Suzanne Correia Kindergarten Teacher – Hugh Cole

Effective: April 20, 2007 through May 4, 2007

**Reason: Parental leave in accordance with
Article 21, Section L2 of the Master
Agreement**

G. LEAVE OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to rescind a leave of absence for a Teacher Assistant as follows:

1. Mildred Grieve Teacher Assistant – Hugh Cole

Effective: November 29, 2006, up to one year

pending release from physician

**Reason: Leave in accordance with Article 20
of the Master Agreement**

H. APPOINTMENT: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to rescind the appointment of a Coach as follows:

1. Pierson Shaw Boys Asst. Lacrosse Coach – Mt. Hope High

Effective: February 1, 2007

Reason: Pre-Employment Requirements

I. RESIGNATIONS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations listed below:

1. Nancy E. Vorro Dean of Students – Mt. Hope High

Effective: July 1, 2007

Reason: Retirement

2. Brandyn Chace Boys Pre-Club Volleyball – Mt. Hope High

Effective: Immediately

Reason: Personal

Mrs. McBride recognized the retirement of Nancy Vorro saying she is a special woman who worked hard and was dedicated to the District for 30 years. Dr. Mara echoed this sentiment stating that she dedicated numerous hours to the students of Mt. Hope and that she will be missed greatly.

Recommendation #S2007-05: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, adopt the proposed 2007-2008 Mt. Hope High School Program of Studies.

Mrs. McBride motioned to approve. Mr. Silva seconded. The addition of new AP courses as discussed at the Workshop, is a consideration for the next cycle as it takes time to implement. Dr. Mara added that the Program is subject to change based on the budget. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:45 PM

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Saviano, seconded by Ms. Campbell, motioned to adjourn at 8:45 PM. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Silva, Secretary

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